

LETTERS TO THE STAR

The Gaps

Several years ago our leaders told us that there was a "great growth gap" between Russia and the U.S.A. and that we were lagging far behind the Soviets.

Recently the Central Intelligence Agency reported the gap between the two economies is wider than most Americans think and that Russia is lagging far behind our country.

One recalls that the Democrats made the "missile gap" an issue in the last presidential campaign. Four months following the election, Secretary of Defense McNamara denied that there was a "missile gap." The "missile gap" was campaign oratory. It is probable that the "great growth gap" allegedly in favor of Russia was Communist propaganda which our leaders swallowed and passed on to the public as authenticated facts.

History is replete with examples of the decline of great civilizations which lived by "myth" and "illusions." We have plenty today of both in our country.

George E. Stringfellow.
East Orange, N. J.